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Date: April 22, 2004

John M. Keeling

PATENT
60303.5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Sadahiko KONDO et al.	Art Unit: 3723
Serial No.: 09/996,318	
Filing Date: November 23, 2001	Examiner: E. Ojini
For: METHOD FOR CUTTING RARE EARTH ALLOY, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RARE EARTH MAGNET, AND WIRE-SAW MACHINE	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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04/27/2004 MBERHE 00000050 09996318
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Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith are copies of three (3) references cited in the enclosed Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-358122. Japanese Application No. 2001-358122 claims priority of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2000-358462 and 2001-318867 under Japanese Patent Law Sec. 41, the priority of which is claimed in the present U.S. application under 35 U.S.C. 119. For the Examiner's convenience, we have enclosed an English translation of the Japanese Office Action from the corresponding Japanese Patent Application and a completed Form PTO-1449. Further, although the Japanese Office Action cites JP 11-198020 and 11-309661, Applicants did not include a copy of these references herewith as these references have been previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 21, 2002. In addition, although the Japanese Office Action cites JP 9-

85737, Applicants did not include a copy of this reference herewith as U.S. 5,827,113, which corresponds to JP 9-85737, has been previously cited by the Examiner in the Office Action dated December 22, 2003. The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.


I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement, and that this is the first citation of these prior art references by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97 (c), Applicants enclose a Credit Card Form for \$180.00 to pay for the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1353 for any fee shortages.

Applicants respectfully request that the disclosed reference be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 22, 2004



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Substitute for form 1449/P

Complete if Known**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **1**

Application Number	09/996,318
Filing Date	November 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Sadahiko KONDO et al.
Art Unit	3723
Examiner Name	E. Ojini
Attorney Docket Number	60303.5

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code 2(if known)	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examine r Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number-Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	1	JP 2000-296455	10/2000	Japan		X
	2	JP 11-277402	10/1999	Japan		X
	3	JP 2000-218504	08/2000	Japan		X

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether of not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached: This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.